Arnold (HB 903) Act No. 542

<u>Present constitution</u> prohibits the total amount of ad valorem taxes collected by any taxing authority in the year of a statewide reappraisal from being increased or decreased because of the reappraisal above or below the amount collected in the year preceding reappraisal. Requires a "roll forward" or "roll back" of millage rates to accomplish this purpose.

<u>Present constitution</u> further authorizes taxing authorities, with a 2/3 vote, to levy an increase in the millage rate in excess of the rates established as provided above, but not in excess of the prior year's maximum authorized millage rate, without further voter approval.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> further limits the power of unelected tax authorities to increase millage rates without voter approval to annual increases which do not exceed 2.5% of the property tax collections for the immediately preceding calendar year, but excludes fire districts, ports, port harbor, and terminal districts, and millages levied by certain levee districts under authority granted by Const. Art.VI, Sec. 39(A).

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on Nov. 2, 2010.

Effective Jan. 1, 2011.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, Sec. 23(C))